

Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force Update to the Strategic Growth Council
May 2013-November 2013

Background

Created in 2010, the California Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force brings together 18 state agencies, departments, and offices to promote health, equity, and environmental sustainability through inter-agency collaboration. Over the last three years, the Task Force has made significant progress moving from a start-up concept to an established institution with meaningful cross-agency relationships.

The Task Force has developed recommendations and implementation plans with specific actions steps in order to promote health, equity, and environmental sustainability while also pursuing other goals of the member organizations. Task Force members have been working in small groups to carry out action steps listed in the implementation plans. Between August and October 2013, staff held individual meetings with each HiAP Task Force member agency to get updates about current organizational priorities, hear feedback on the Task Force process, and vet new ideas for implementation. The Task Force met as a whole on November 20, 2013.

While Task Force members initially came to the table in response to a mandate, they continue to participate because they see value in this approach, including opportunities to pursue innovative strategies to improve health, equity, and sustainability.

The Health in All Policies Task Force is staffed through a collaborative partnership between the California Department of Public Health and the Public Health Institute, with funding from the California Endowment and Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit. Following are recent highlights of Task Force implementation projects. You may contact SGC or HiAP staff if you would like additional information.

Highlights of inter-agency projects

- The inter-agency Farm to Fork office (Departments of Food and Agriculture, Education, and Public Health) launched a new website: <http://www.cafarmtofork.com/>, and is beginning to develop a renewed scope of work and funding agreements for continuation.
- The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection completed an urban forest inventory and assessment pilot project in the City of San Jose that can be used to develop and demonstrate a feasible approach for mapping the state's urban forests and quantifying the value of ecosystem services they provide.
- The actions steps in the Active Transportation implementation plan are near completion, and Task Force members are developing a process to renew the plan with new action steps.
- The Governor's Office of Planning and Research is engaging health partners and a variety of Task Force members as they revise the General Plan Guidelines, with a particular focus on health, equity, and environmental sustainability.
- HiAP staff and interns developed tools to assess the impact of health and equity criteria in State grant-making programs, in partnership with the Departments of Forestry and Fire Protection, Housing and Community Development, Community Services and Development, and the SGC.
- Staff have facilitated the creation of an inter-agency Food Procurement Working Group, a successful community supported agriculture pilot program, and a plan to pursue funding to support the Department of General Services and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as they integrate health criteria into food purchasing contracts.

- The Housing Siting and Air Quality workgroup is reaching out to local health departments as it explores issues regarding the role and authority of local agencies in housing siting and air quality decisions and regulations.
- The Local Government Commission held listening sessions across the state to gather input for the Task Force's work to develop guidelines to support planners to reduce crime and promote vibrant, livable communities through land use design.

HiAP Organizational Infrastructure

- [Section 131019.5 of the California Health and Safety Code](#) calls for the Advisory Committee of the Office of Health Equity (OHE) at the California Department of Public Health to work closely with the HiAP Task Force as it develops its strategic plan and health equity data report. OHE Deputy Director Jahmal Miller discussed next steps for partnership at the HiAP Task Force on November 20th.
- The Task Force adopted an informal charter to establish clarity on decision-making, membership, and other structural issues.
- Staff are exploring innovative approaches to evaluation in order to measure impact, learn from our experiences, and demonstrate the value of the Task Force.
- The California Endowment has provided a grant to sustain HiAP staffing through July 2014. CDPH has also provided one new full-time staff position to support this effort.

HiAP External Capacity Building and Outreach

- Through the Public Health Institute (PHI), staff have provided HiAP technical support to Del Norte, Monterey, and Merced counties.
- In October 2013, PHI and the American Public Health Association released *Health in All Policies: A Guide for State and Local Governments*, which has garnered international attention for the Task Force's work. This 169-page report was written in partnership with the California Department of Public Health and The California Endowment, and features a detailed case study of the California HiAP Task Force. It is available at: <http://www.phi.org/resources/?resource=hiapguide>. This webpage has had over 4,000 unique visitors since the Guide was released.